

Dove Cliff Weir Removal - June 2021 update

Since our last update in May 2021, the project has progressed significantly. The good weather and river flow conditions over the last month have allowed the contractors to really push ahead with construction of the new river profile.

Whilst construction has been ongoing, there has been a slight extension to the programme as we have been working on a minor design alteration to the layout of mill fleam and its inlet. The minor alterations have allowed us to be confident in the stability and longevity of the tree in the new riverbank profile.

As we have progressed towards completion over the last few months, the contractors are now able to provide a more detailed programme, indicating that all in-channel works will be complete in early August. The project is now due to be complete by the end of August 2021.

Please bear in mind that all activities on the project are weather dependent and that health and safety on site is a priority. No risks will be taken with working in unsafe conditions, such as in high flow/flood events.

Dove Cliff weir works

Our contractor has progressed well with the in channel restoration works. Approximately 80% of the rock has been placed in the main channel and the inlet of the mill fleam to ensure the flow split is retained, similarly to the previous site arrangement. Unfortunately, this activity can be quite loud and we apologise for any inconvenience this may cause. As explained in our previous update, when complete the channel will represent a natural river bend, with a deep faster flowing section on the outside and a shallower flowing section on the inside. The mill fleam will be reconnected on the outside of the bend to ensure the flows are maintained.

The photograph below shows the new river channel and bed under construction.



All of the rock is expected to have been placed by the end of June 2021, at which point the sheet piles diverting the river will be removed and it will be diverted back over the new river bed and banks.

In the last update we informed you that some landscaping will be undertaken in late autumn to replace trees that unfortunately had to be removed for the project to progress. We have in the meantime however started placing topsoil in some areas of the site that will be seeded with a native grass mixture. Early planting of the grass seed will ensure that it has a good amount of time to grow before the winter season.

Main project activities over the coming month

- Placement of all rock in the main channel
- Removing the sheet piles that are currently in place to divert the river
- Opening up the river to its original course
- Isolating the temporary bypass channel and restoring the land on the Derbyshire side of the river.

Contact us

If you have any queries about this project, or would like to be added to the mailing list to receive these updates, please contact our Engagement Team via email at Engagement_WestMids@environment-agency.gov.uk or by telephone on 0203 025 1583.

We also have an online information page about this project. The link to this page is <https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/west-midlands/removal-of-dove-cliff-weir>.

Thank you for taking the time to read this update.